

State Advisory Committee (SAC) For Children with Disabilities
Advising the NH Department of Education Per RSA 186-C:3-b
Minutes for the meeting of January 2, 2013
NH Department of Education
Room 15
4:30pm - 7:00 pm

In Attendance: Candace Cole-McCrea, Kestrel Cole-McCrea, Daniel Ward, Mike Pinard, Janet Reed, Renea Sparks, Bonnie Dunham, Maureen Tracey, Sue Marcotte-Jenkins, Kerri- Lynn Kimner, John Jackson.

Guests: Dan Habib, Santina Thibedeau

Agenda Item I: Welcome, Introductions, Approval of Minutes, Public Comment

- Bonnie Dunham, Chair, welcomed everyone to the January meeting and asked for introductions.
- Approval of December minutes: Sue Marcotte-Jenkins, made the motion to accept the December minutes. Kestrel Cole-McCrea seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.
- Public Comment: None

Agenda Item II: Guest Speaker: Dan Habib, presenting on the “Who Cares About Kelsey” project.

- “Who Cares about Kelsey” project – this nationally recognized video has been shown at conferences and other venues all over the country. It will also be airing on NH Public TV, on January 19th at 8:00 pm, and 6:00 pm on January 20th, it also can be seen on “YouTube”.
- Dan presented six “mini” films today in connection with the project. They included interviews with the NH Houses of Corrections. These interviews were focused on asking what had gotten the inmates on the path they are on. The films also included interviews of students with significant disabilities. The Department of Education played a key role in this project. The project also received financial support from Endowment for Health and NH Charitable Foundation.
- There was discussion after the movie, on how can we reach all kids ~ connecting and listening to the kids is important and essential. This is a common theme that relates to Dan’s work. In the next year, Dan is willing to work with SAC and this project in affecting policy.
- Dan graciously provided free copies of the video to any SAC member who did not already have a copy.

Agenda Item III: Overview of DOE Meeting and stakeholder group working with the Data Driven Enterprises' group and their final report – Bonnie Dunham.

- The stakeholder group consists of NHASEA, SAC representatives (Raymond Dailey, Bonnie Dunham, and Renea Sparks), Disabilities Rights Center, NH Private Providers. The SAC's report on this meeting is minimal at this time. An additional meeting is to be held and more information will be shared with SAC at that time. The common theme for the DDE meeting was also, what was in the best interest of the kids. There were some discrepancies in the DDE report – the stakeholder group was encouraged to send in input.
- 1. A draft of the top twelve recommendations will be done and sent out to the stakeholder group.
- 2. A timeline is also being developed to keep moving forward.

Agenda Item IV: Bureau Update: Santina Thibedeau

- The bureau has been working on the NHALPS projects (Alternate Assessment).
- The Augmentative Devices RFP went out. The Bureau would like to do regional trainings. Diana Petschauer (NHAIM) works with IOS devices – ipads, iphones, and bookshare. Sue Marcotte Jenkins suggested having training on insurance companies paying for the augmentative devices. This is allowable under "Connor's Law".
- The Bureau is working with school districts on the American Printing House (APH) counts and making sure students qualify. The state is awarded APH credits based on the number of blind and visually impaired students that New Hampshire has, in order to purchase materials and equipment for these students.
- The Bureau is currently working on the SPP/APR with OSEP's guidance.
- Dr. Lynda Thistle-Elliott, the state coordinator of homeless education has a film titled *Inocent, a story of homelessness in America*. If SAC would like to see the film, the Bureau can arrange for it to be shown at a SAC meeting.
- NH DOE, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation has started a new program. The program helps VR counselors and high school special education counselors understand the roles that each have.

Agenda Item V: Legislative Update, Liaison Updates, Correspondence, Announcements, Current Events, Old and New business, Emerging issues: Bonnie Dunham

- *Legislative Update:* All bills are still in "LSR" stage. Bonnie will have more clarity at next SAC meeting. Legislative members have not been chosen yet. It was suggested that we have a SAC liaison to work

with the legislative members. This will be discussed further, once we know who the representatives are.

- *Updates from SAC Liaisons:* There is no liaison update on ICC (Sue Marcotte-Jenkins is liaison).
- *Correspondence:* A reporter has inquired about SAC and is interested in finding out more about SAC. Bonnie responded to the email.
- The only *announcement* was from Bonnie informing people that PIC has scheduled several workshop series in the North Country.
- There are no *current events*.
- *New business:* SAC Members are being asked to fill out a financial disclosure form from the Governor's office.
- *Old business:* The "*draft norms*" on the agenda – Please let Renea or Bonnie know if there are any changes to the draft norms. If there are none, they will become permanent.
- *Emerging issues:* Masticola School District is having their "*diamond method*" patented (this was presented to SAC a few years ago). Maureen Tracey explained more about the method. It is about who needs more supports, more enrichment etc.

Agenda Item VI: Membership:

- The membership list will be sent around at the next meeting to look at the five vacancies.

Agenda Item VII: Subcommittees will meet at the next meeting.

Agenda Item VIII: No public comment.

Agenda Item IX: Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn was made by Janet Reed, and seconded by Kerri Lynn Kimner. All in favor.
- Meeting adjourned at: 6:55pm